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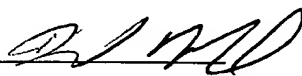
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Attorney Docket No.: 16869S-032100US
Client Reference No.: E6171-01 EV

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11/26/01 PATENT
J1017 U.S. PTO
09/931997
08/17/01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Hidetoshi Nishiyama, et al.

Application No.:

Filed: Herewith

For: Method and Its Apparatus for
Inspecting Particles or Defects of a
Semiconductor Device

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: Unassigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The references cited on attached form PTO/SB/08A-B are being called to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the references are enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the cited references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

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Respectfully submitted,



Robert C. Colwell
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PTO/SB/08B (08-00)

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

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|-------|---|----|---|
| Sheet | 2 | of | 2 |
|-------|---|----|---|

Complete if Known

Application Number

Filing Date

First Named Inventor

Nishiyama, Hidetoshi

Group Art Unit

Examiner Name

Attorney Docket Number

16869S-032100US

OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

**Examiner
Signature**

Date
Considered

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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